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January
10, 2018

Exclusive: Trump's EPA Aims to Replace Obama-Era Climate, Water Regulations in 2018

By Valerie Volcovici and David Shepardson, Reuters • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:51:26

The EPA will replace Obama-era carbon and clean water regulations and open up a national debate on climate change in 2018, part of a list of priorities for the year that also includes fighting lead contamination in public drinking water. "The climate is changing. That's not the debate. The debate is how do we know what the ideal surface temperature is in 2100?... I think the American people deserve an open honest transparent discussion about those things," said Pruitt, who has frequently cast doubt on the causes and implications of global warming. [[read more ...](#)]

Trump Administration Drops Florida From Offshore Drilling Plan

By HIROKO TABUCHI, New York Times • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:51:59

"I support the governor's position that Florida is unique and its coasts are heavily reliant on tourism as an economic driver," Mr. Zinke said in a statement after meeting Governor Scott in Florida. "I am removing Florida from consideration for any new oil and gas platforms." [[read more ...](#)]

Murray decries FERC 'cop-out' on Perry grid plan

Dylan Brown, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:53:05

The "most important action ever undertaken" to protect the grid is dead and there will be consequences, Murray Energy Corp. CEO Robert Murray said yesterday. Murray — whom President Trump called "my guy" — chastised the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for rejecting Energy Secretary Rick Perry's proposed subsidy for coal and nuclear power generation. [[read more ...](#)]

Critics slam Perry after FERC blocks his 'crazy Hail Mary'

Sam Mintz and Hannah Northey, E&E News reporters • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:52:42

"This was a crazy Hail Mary pass in the first quarter of a game on an issue which ... calls for a long, solid ground game," said Paul Bledsoe, a former consultant at the Energy Department under President Obama, and now a strategic adviser at the Progressive Policy Institute. "Perry looks like a very poor play-caller indeed." [[read more ...](#)]

'It is time to step up:' Gov. Inslee releases details of proposed carbon tax

By Joseph O'Sullivan, Seattle Times • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:53:27

Gov. Jay Inslee Tuesday urged Washington lawmakers to embrace his ambitious plan to tax fossil-fuel emissions in Washington state. In his State of the State address, the governor implored legislators to cast aside their reservations and adopt a plan to tackle climate change in this year's short, 60-day legislative session. "It is time to step up," Inslee told lawmakers at the Capitol. The impacts of climate change, he added, "will be carried by our children, our economy, our security and our quality of life." [[read more ...](#)]

Tesla says solar roof production has started in Buffalo

By Nichola Groom, Reuters • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:54:08

Tesla Inc said on Tuesday it began manufacturing its premium solar roof tiles at the company's Buffalo, New York factory last month and has started surveying the homes of customers who made a deposit of \$1,000 to reserve the product last year. The solar roof, which generates electricity without the need for traditional rooftop panels, is a cornerstone of the electric vehicle maker's strategy to sell a fossil-fuel-free lifestyle under the luxury Tesla brand. Tesla unveiled the product in October 2016 as it sought to acquire solar installer SolarCity. [[read more ...](#)]

If Subsidised, Statoil Will Eye Norway's Offshore Wind

By Lefteris Karagiannopoulos, Reuters • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:54:27

Norway's Statoil may take part in the country's first tender to build floating offshore wind turbines, as long as there are sufficient long-term subsidies. In December, Norway's Ministry of Petroleum and Energy said it planned to shortly open one or two offshore regions for construction of floating wind generatio [[read more ...](#)]

China Seen Set to Dominate Clean Energy on Investment Surge

By Bloomberg News • • Posted 2018-01-10 06:54:43

China is set to dominate global construction and financing of clean energy after record investment in overseas ventures and takeovers last year. The world's biggest energy user spent \$44 billion on large, international clean energy projects, and mergers and acquisitions in 2017, up almost 38 percent from a year earlier, Cleveland-based Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis said in a report. China's Belt and Road Initiative has driven \$8 billion of solar exports and is proving a gateway to emergent sectors like energy storage. [[read more ...](#)]

Obama aide joins Nature Conservancy

Heather Zichal, a former top White House aide to President Obama, has joined the Nature Conservancy as managing director of corporate engagement. Zichal was a senior Obama White House aide on energy and environmental issues, helping develop several major regulations as well as the administration's trademark Climate Action Plan. She left in 2013. [[read more ...](#)]

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